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excluded words database and to eliminate all redundant entries. Such an engineered knowledge base will be faster and more efficiently used in the context of the present invention than a knowledge base of raw data. Another type of knowledge base can be made up of a classification or taxonomy schema only. The classification schema will typically include a set of classifications and a description of the possible, including some examples. The description can be compared by the classification engine against attribute values of the item to be classified. The classification schema can also be engineered to optimize efficiency or accuracy as discussed above. A further kind of knowledge base is a knowledge base of an alternate classification system. Such a knowledge base can have a set of classifications according to the schema that is to be applied reference to an alternative classification system against which the source content has already been applied, such as UNSPSC. This knowledge base allows items to be classified using an existing classification as discussed above and can be engineered just as the others can.

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~~Please replace paragraph 30 with the following paragraph:~~

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A2

[0030] In one embodiment, the search engine operates as shown in Figure 2. The search engine begins by performing a proximity query which will try to find an exact match of the search string within the database 21. Each record within the database is tested against the search string to find records that contain all of the search terms in proximity to each other. The highest quality match will be a record in which all terms appear in the same order as the search string. A lower quality match will have the terms in a different order, or may have the terms separated by other strings.

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